

# AMERICANS MAKE PROTEST AGAINST MEXICAN DECREES

Eighty-Four U. S. Citizens at Tampico Send Telegram to President.

## PROPERTY THREATENED WITH CONFISCATION

Signers Assert Their Right to Protection From Washington Government.

## DECLARE THEY WILL NOT OBEY

Carranza's Messenger, Bearing New Note, Expected at Capital To-Day.

WASHINGTON, May 28.—On the eve of receipt of General Carranza's note, which officials believe will renew the demand for withdrawal of American troops from Mexico, and with another conference between American and Mexican military commanders about to begin, a protest was received at the White House, reporting serious difficulties between American oil operators at Tampico and the Mexican authorities.

The protest came in the form of a telegram addressed to President Wilson by eighty-four American citizens residing in Tampico. They declared the Mexican military officials were promulgating decrees designed to make it impossible for Americans to do business in the country, and said one of them had been arrested and imprisoned for three hours because he refused to pay his employees wages fixed by the authorities in excess of terms previously agreed upon with the men. The signers of the message asserted their right to protection from the American government, and announced their determination not to comply with arbitrary and confiscatory orders and decrees by the Mexicans.

## TO STATE DEPARTMENT FOR INVESTIGATION

White House officials sent the protest to the State Department for investigation. Other complaints already have been received regarding recent decrees by the Carranza government, and it is probable that there will be representations on the subject just as soon as the controversy over the presence of American troops in Mexico is adjusted.

"It has become practically impossible for an American to do business of any nature in this section of the country," the Tampico message said, "because of restrictions placed by the authorities that we believe to be directed primarily against American citizens. For a year a series of decrees have made their appearance, which have been progressive, in that they are constantly becoming more anti-American. We believe that the authorities had not the remotest idea when they first began to issue such decrees that they would be able to enforce them, but that when nothing was done by our government to secure their repeal, that these decrees have been made more stringent each day, until now our property is threatened with confiscation, and, in some cases, has been actually confiscated, and our personal liberty is menaced."

## NO FOREIGNER PERMITTED TO ACQUIRE LEASES

"A military decree was issued some months ago providing that lands might not be leased in the State of Vera Cruz for oil purposes without the consent of the state government, and this decree has been modified until now no foreigner is permitted to acquire leases, real estate or assignments of leases from a native."

"A decree was issued a few days ago by the local military authorities providing that labor should be paid, and merchandise would be sold on a basis of Mexican gold, the consideration to be paid in Mexican paper money at an arbitrary value fixed by the government, regardless of the commercial value of this paper money as regulated by supply and demand."

"All of the above decrees violate Mexican law and are in contravention of the rights of Americans guaranteed by treaty between Mexico and the United States. We desire to know if the American government will permit the above decrees, or any of them to remain in force where the rights of Americans are involved. An understanding with the authorities as to the future would not be sufficient. The decrees already in existence must be repealed where they affect Americans."

## CARRANZA'S MESSENGER IS EXPECTED TO-DAY

Manuel Mendez, General Carranza's personal messenger, bringing the new note to the United States, passed through St. Louis yesterday and should reach here early to-morrow. Eliseo Arredondo, the Mexican ambassador-designate, may deliver the communication to-morrow. Otherwise its delivery probably will be postponed until Wednesday, government officials being closed on Tuesday, in observance of Memorial Day.

So far no official summary of the new note has been received, but all information supports the uniform belief in official quarters that it will renew the suggestion that the American expedition be withdrawn. There is no indication that the administration is prepared to grant such a demand.

Further details regarding the recent engagement near Cruces, between men of the Seventeenth Infantry and an outlaw band of twenty under the notorious bandit leaders, Bencomon and Cerantes, both of whom were killed by private George Huett, were received at the War Department to-day from General Pershing. His message, dated

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# Nonpartisan League Will Be Organized to Work for Wilson

Survivor of Sussex



Mrs. Clarence Handyside, of New York, who is a survivor of the Sussex, arrived recently on the Lafayette. Mrs. Handyside was one of the few women on the Sussex. Her story is one of the most graphic accounts of the torpedoing of the Sussex that has yet reached this country. She said that she had saved the life of a sixteen-year-old Belgian soldier after the crash.

## VITAL PUBLIC QUESTIONS IN REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

Chairman Hilles, of National Committee, Outlines What He Believes Will Be Principal Planks.

## TO ATTACK ADMINISTRATION

Difference of Opinion Among Party Leaders as to National Woman Suffrage—Refers to Probable Action of Progressive Convention.

CHICAGO, Ill., May 28.—Chairman Charles D. Hilles, of the Republican National Committee, to-day expressed the opinion that the platform made by the national convention next month would deal only with the most vital public questions. From information obtained in talking with party leaders he believes the principal planks will include:

## A STATEMENT ON AMERICANISM

A statement on preparedness for adequate military and naval defense.

A declaration in favor of a protective tariff to be prepared by a nonpartisan tariff commission, created by Congress, with special attention to the needs of the country's industries after the European war ends.

## A DECLARATION IN FAVOR OF A MERCHANT MARINE

A statement dealing with the alleged shortcomings of the Democratic national administration.

Chairman Hilles said there was a difference of opinion among the party leaders as to national woman suffrage, and he did not know what action the convention would take.

## WILL BE URGED TO INSERT PLANK FOR SUFFRAGE

The National Congressional Union will urge the Republicans to insert a plank in favor of a suffrage amendment to the Constitution and Chairman Hilles has promised the women a hearing before the Committee on Resolutions.

The only other organization thus far to ask for a hearing is the Navy League of the United States, which will send a committee to plead for a plank for the enlargement of the navy.

In speaking of the probable action of the Progressive National Convention, called for June 7 in Chicago, Chairman Hilles said:

"I imagine everybody assumes that the Progressives will nominate Roosevelt for President. If the Republican convention adopts a straightforward, sincere, ringing declaration on the vital public questions now being discussed and nominates a man clearly equal to the important tasks which will confront the next President, Roosevelt might not think there would be any need of his entering the field. But if the Republicans nominate a man who Mr. Roosevelt thinks is a misfit, and adopts a platform which he regards as 'bunk,' he may feel so outraged as to run and perhaps help re-elect President Wilson."

Chairman Hilles denied a report that the organization had ever thought of attempting to force the nomination of a candidate for President the first day of the convention.

## NO ATTEMPT TO NAME CANDIDATE ON FIRST DAY

"Such a plan has never even been discussed by members of the national committee, and it would be impossible," he said. "The convention will follow precedent. It will meet at 11 A. M. on Wednesday, June 7, listen to the address of the temporary chairman and appoint the committee."

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# Many Business Men, Capitalists, Philanthropists and Independents Favor His Re-Election.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, May 28.—The campaign for the re-election of Woodrow Wilson will be furthered by a nationwide, nonpartisan league, composed of business men, capitalists, philanthropists, editors and other independents, who, ordinarily, take no part whatever in active politics.

The announcement of this league was made here to-day following informal conferences between its organizers, many of whom came to Washington to attend the meeting of the peace advocates. The names of a group of these organizers were also made public to-day to indicate the tremendous importance of the part such an organization must necessarily play in a national campaign.

Many of these men have never before appeared in a fight for the election of a President, and but few of them have ever supported a Democrat for office, either by their voice or their vote. The names of the members of the organization committee show the significance of the movement. This committee is composed of the following:

Jacob Schiff, of New York, banker and philanthropist; A. B. Farquhar, of New York, Pa., manufacturer and economist; Norman Hapgood, of Washington, D. C., editor; Joseph W. Harriman, president Harriman National Bank, of New York; Charles R. Crane, of Wood's Hole, Mass., banker; Cleveland H. Dodge, of New York, merchant; Charles H. Jones, of Boston, manufacturer; Henry Bruere, New York, municipal official; Isidor Jacobs, of San Francisco, cannery; Lamar Hardy, corporation counsel of New York; Rathbone Gardner, of Providence, R. I., Republican leader; Russell Whitman, of Evanston, Ill., Progressive; Ray Stannard Baker, of Amherst, Mass., writer; William E. Sweet, of Denver, Colo., banker; Otto T. Mallory, of Philadelphia, capitalist; Lawrence A. Woods, of Pittsburgh, Republican lawyer; Paul Fuller, New York, lawyer; John J. Murphy, tenement house commissioner of New York; Joseph M. Price, of New York, manufacturer; Richard Lloyd Jones, of Madison, Wis., editor; Herbert Quick, of Springfield, Ohio, editor; Samuel Fels, of Philadelphia, manufacturer; Clarence Howard, of St. Louis, Mo., manufacturer; Bernard N. Baker, of Baltimore, capitalist; Graham Taylor, of Chicago, editor; William Kent, Independent Congressman from California; John D. Crimmins, of New York, capitalist.

## WILSON WILL BE SUPPORTED BY MEN OF BUSINESS

This roster points very clearly to the fact that President Wilson will be actively supported by a class of men in the coming campaign that no other Democratic candidate in the Presidential election has been able to attract, to wit, the men of business. And this support has come to Mr. Wilson without the surrender by him of a single conviction as to what constitutes legitimate enterprise in this country.

This group of men, some of them controlling millions of dollars of investments, and most of them representing the best element of American industry, are prompted to engage in a political campaign in the President's behalf because he has been able to accomplish two vital things—honorable peace and abundant prosperity. Such support can be accounted for on those grounds, if there were no other.

An interesting circumstance about the organization of this league is the willingness of such men as compose its committee to lend themselves to a Democratic campaign before the Republican convention has had time to offer them a candidate, and, therefore, a choice in the ordinary course of such movements, the real independents of the country await the action of the two national conventions, and then decide which of the two candidates and platforms is most worthy of confidence.

## NO POSSIBLE CANDIDATE CAN SWITCH ALLEGIANCE

In the present situation, however, the men in and behind the nonpartisan league are for Wilson, no matter whom the Republicans may nominate, or the Progressives, or the Socialists, or any other organization. There is not now, at all events, a possible candidate on the Republican or Bull Moose horizon who holds the league organizers off.

From the statement issued to-day in connection with the names of the organization committee, it is evident that the committee expect to make a sweeping campaign in behalf of the President. They will organize in every State that is remotely doubtful, and will carry on a national propaganda entirely aside from the local contests.

The political possibilities of such a league as has now been started was demonstrated eight years ago, when John Hays Hammond organized a similar movement in behalf of Judge Taft. The Hammond campaigners did effective work throughout the entire East and made themselves a very considerable factor in the overwhelming result of the contest.

National headquarters of the league will be located in Washington until after the St. Louis convention. Norman Hapgood has moved to this city from New York to take charge of the organization details. He will later have general supervision of the publicity end of the league's work.

# CONGRESSMEN OFF TO CHICAGO MEET

Many Have Left Washington for Business Pertaining to Convention.

## DIFFICULT TO KEEP QUORUM

House to End Debate on Naval Bill on Friday and Take Vote Before Adjournment.

WASHINGTON, May 28.—The pre-convention exodus of members of Congress already has begun, many members of the House and nearly a score of Senators having left Washington for preliminary business pertaining to the Republican convention in Chicago next week. Democratic leaders will begin to depart later in the week on political missions connected with the St. Louis convention.

For many days the halls of the Capitol have buzzed with political discussions and administration leaders have encountered trouble in keeping a quorum present in either house. Realizing that this difficulty will increase, extraordinary efforts are being made to hold members whose absence is not imperative until next Friday.

Important legislation that will require attention of members during the week includes the \$241,000,000 naval appropriation bill in the House and the long-fought rivers and harbors appropriation bill in the Senate. The House will end debate on the naval bill on Friday, and a vote will be taken before adjournment. The bill then will go to the Senate, where the Naval Affairs Committee will take it up after the conventions end.

Decisive action on the \$43,000,000 rivers and harbors bill in the Senate is expected by Thursday or Friday at the latest. To-morrow the Senate will vote on a motion to recommit, with instructions that the bill be reported in the form of a blanket appropriation of \$20,000,000 to carry on existing projects. Senators who have persistently fought the bill have made many converts, and they were confident to-night that they could muster enough votes to send the bill back to the committee. If they do the Commerce Committee at once will report the proposed substitute resolution, which could be passed immediately. If recommitment fails, other efforts at completion will be made.

## TO ACT ON NOMINATION OF LOUIS D. BRANDEIS

Another important event of the week will be action on the nomination of Louis D. Brandeis to the Supreme Court. The vote will be taken on Thursday, and opposition leaders have conceded that confirmation will result. The leaders are preparing reports for and against Mr. Brandeis, which will be submitted in lieu of discussion in executive session on Thursday, to be made public after the vote is taken.

Another matter which Senate leaders hope to dispose of before the convention is the Philippine self-government bill, substituted by the House for the Senate independence measure. Administration leaders are ready to accept the House bill without reference to the Philippine Committee, and they hope to force a vote on it, despite some Republican opposition.

As soon as this business is disposed of, leaders of both houses will be ready for the convention. Agreement already has been reached for the week to recess for three days at a time, beginning next Saturday. The House plans to keep going without recess, considering undisputed bills. Among important matters, which must await the return of absent members, are the fortifications, diplomatic and consular, pension bills already pending, and the appropriation bill, carrying approximately \$150,000,000, which will be formally reported on Tuesday.

To-morrow the Senate Committee on Post-Office and Post Roads will meet in executive session to consider the case of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General James I. Blakeslee, who charged in a letter to postmasters that members of the committee had surrendered to the railroads in their disposition of the post-office appropriation bill. Mr. Blakeslee and the committee had an exciting word war over the matter yesterday.

## TOBACCO MEN TO MEET

First Annual Gathering of Association of United States Begins in Washington To-Day.

WASHINGTON, May 28.—Delegates began arriving here to-night for the first annual meeting of the Tobacco Merchants' Association of the United States, which will extend over two days, beginning to-morrow. Thirty States, Cuba and Porto Rico will be represented by more than 300 delegates.

Closer co-operation among all persons identified with the tobacco industry is the prime object of the association. Jacob Wertheim, president of the association, is expected to outline the policy of the association in his first address. He will make a plea for a "square deal" for the industry. This speech will be the feature of the opening session.

At the afternoon session to-morrow papers will be read on shade-grown and leaf tobacco, trade papers and their relations to the tobacco industry and trade marks.

Senators Harding, Reed, Oliver, James and Fletcher and Representatives Mann, of Illinois, and Fitzgerald, of New York, have accepted invitations to speak at a dinner to be given by the association to-morrow night.

The closing session on Tuesday will be devoted to discussion of a paper on the "Use of Trade Acceptances in Business" by Ernest F. du Brul.

# WILSON'S ADDRESS WIDELY DISCUSSED

Diplomats Express Frank Approval for Many of Its Features.

## PRaised BY SMALLER POWERS

Regarded as Theoretical, but Recognized as Distinct Peace Message.

[By the International News Service.]

WASHINGTON, May 28.—Diplomats in Washington read with profound interest to-day President Wilson's address last night before the League to Enforce Peace. None would comment on it for publication, but frank approval of many of its features was expressed. The representatives of some of the smaller powers spoke in high praise of the President's utterances concerning the secondary nations, and heartily acclaimed his counsel to the world to lay aside the diplomacy of force, and to substitute therefor the diplomacy of justice.

President Wilson's advocacy of a world-police force to compel peace was met with various opinions. Approval was given it in Democratic official circles outside of Congress, and it was likewise endorsed by many who heard it, but in diplomatic circles there was indicated the greatest doubt that anything would ever materialize from it. Some publicists of international reputation also were sceptical that any Continental power would accept it.

Diplomats were surprised by the President's virtual announcement that the United States would be willing to enter into an alliance or federation of nations to enforce peace. They construed the declaration as a departure from this country's traditional policy of holding aloof from "entangling alliances," which was formed by Washington and Jefferson and never deviated from.

## RECALLS HOLY ALLIANCE

AFTER NAPOLEONIC WARS

President Wilson's assertion that if the government should suggest or initiate a movement for peace, the people of the United States would wish the organization of "an universal association of nations to maintain the inviolate security of the highway of the seas," and "to prevent any war begun, either contrary to treaty covenants, or without warning and full submission of the causes to the opinion of the world," recalled to European diplomats the holy alliance organized after the Napoleonic wars. It was formed at the invitation of the Russian Emperor, and joined, among others, by Great Britain, France and Austria-Hungary. Its objects were much the same, considering the time, as the one now proposed. The holy alliance, however, disintegrated through discord and wars. Its tendency, it was declared, was to drive nations apart and to war rather than to bind them closer together and insure peace.

Out of the holy alliance, also, it was said, came the inspiration for the Monroe Doctrine, suggested to the United States by the British government, which was charged with using its diplomacy secretly against the alliance.

## SYMPATHY EXPRESSED IN GERMAN QUARTERS

In both German and allied quarters, sympathy was expressed for the spirit in which President Wilson's address was made, and nothing in it was construed as a criticism of any particular belligerent. In neither German nor allied circles was it admitted that underlying the address was there tangible substance upon which to indicate that peace is at hand. There was evidence, however, that the address amounted to an international incident, and that it portended a definite effort on the part of the United States to take advantage of the growing world sentiment for peace, and the seeming willingness of Germany to treat for peace.

Generally the address was regarded as being theoretical, but beneath the obvious, diplomatic recognition it a distinct peace message to the belligerent powers, and a warning that the United States would not approve of a peace that was not based on justice.

## GET MEN FROM HOPEWELL

Five Hundred Will Take Places of Striking Longshoremen on Norfolk Wharves.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

NORFOLK, Va., May 28.—Five hundred strike breakers, composed of foreigners and negroes, imported by water from Hopewell, Va., to-day were landed at the wharves of the Old Dominion Steamship Company to take the place of longshoremen, who have quit work to enforce a demand for an increase in wages.

The property of the company is being carefully guarded to-night by a squad of policemen, while the strike breakers are being housed and cared for on one of the company's river steamers, to prevent the possibility of a clash with strikers. The tension is said to be acute.

The heavy shipments of truck by this line to New York have been subject to serious delays for several days, owing to the shortage of labor, due to the strike.

## MAY RENEW PEACE EFFORTS

Authoritatively Announced That Henry Ford Contemplates Another Trip to Europe.

DETROIT, MICH., May 28.—Henry Ford may return to Europe to renew his efforts to bring about peace among the warring nations. This possibility was made public to-night by Theodore D. Lavigne, who is in close touch with Mr. Ford. He said Mr. Ford may sail for Stockholm about June 15.

# Condition Is Critical



JAMES J. HILL.

## JAMES J. HILL SPENDS UNSATISFACTORY DAY

Pulse Good, but Temperature Is High, and He Suffers Considerable Pain.

## FRIENDS GREATLY ALARMED

Special Train Breaks All Speed Records in Bringing Infrequently Used Sedative, Which Surgeons Finally Decide Not to Administer.

ST. PAUL, MINN., May 28.—James J. Hill, critically ill at his residence here, passed a restless, unsatisfactory day. While the pioneer railroad builder's pulse was good, his temperature was high, and he suffered considerable pain. Shortly after 1 o'clock this afternoon waiting newspaper men and others were aroused sharply, when the Rev. Father Thomas J. Gibbons, vicar-general of the St. Paul archdiocese and pastor of the St. Paul Cathedral, hurried from the cathedral edifice, where he had been saying mass, to the Hill mansion. At this it was reported that Mr. Hill had suffered a slight sinking spell, and that members of the family had been called to the sick room. At 4 o'clock it was said Mr. Hill had rallied somewhat.

His pulse was reported better, but a high temperature continued. At 6 o'clock to-night the patient's temperature was reported unchanged. Throughout the day men of prominence in railroad, business and professional circles called at the Hill home. All came away grave, uncommunicative.

## INTIMATES BENEFIT FROM USE OF SEDATIVE

One of the physicians in attendance upon Mr. Hill intimated that a certain infrequently used sedative might be of some possible slight benefit to the patient. Other doctors present questioned the possible efficiency of the sedative, and, as added argument against the use, stated that none of it could be obtained at any point nearer than Chicago.

Louis W. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railroad, and son of J. J. Hill, chanced to overhear this conversation of the surgeons. He at once had his secretary telephone a firm of pharmaceutical chemists in Chicago, and upon learning that a supply of this sedative could be obtained there he ordered a special train to the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad to bring the sedative to St. Paul. It arrived last night, having made the trip of 431 miles in eight hours three minutes, or at an average of fifty-four miles an hour. Railroad men stated that this shattered all record between Chicago and St. Paul.

When the sedative was delivered at the Hill residence the surgeons had decided not to avail themselves of it. All traffic, both passenger and freight, on the Burlington Railroad between St. Paul and Chicago was sidetracked to give way to the Hill special.

Late to-night Dr. Biggs and Dr. Gillfillan issued the following statement: "Condition to-night less favorable, the outlook becomes extremely serious."

"Mr. Hill is a very sick man."

## COL. JOHN S. MOSBY SINKING

In Critical Condition at Garfield Hospital, in Washington, and His Family Gives Up Hope.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, May 28.—Colonel John S. Mosby, famous as a Confederate cavalry officer, who is critically ill at the Garfield Hospital here, was reported to-night in a sinking condition. His family has abandoned hope for his recovery. Colonel Mosby has been ill for the past few weeks with the infirmities of old age. To-day his condition became worse.

Several years ago Colonel Mosby suffered from a severe attack of illness, but his wonderful vitality pulled him through. However, his strength has rapidly been failing, and he has been unable to rally from his present illness.

Although a native of Virginia, Colonel Mosby has made his home in Washington for many years. His last public appearance was in Norfolk last April. At that time he stated that "the Mexicans are afraid to stand up and fight. Give me my old battalion and their youth, and we would get Villa in short order."

# BULGARIAN ARMY BEGINS DRIVE INTO GREEK MACEDONIA

Force of 25,000 Men Reported as Reaching Demir-Hissar.

## NEXT GOAL IS AEGEAN SEAPORT OF KAVALLA

Rejuvenated Serbian Troops Land at Saloniki to Re-enforce British and French.

ESTIMATED TO EXCEED 80,000

Only Artillery Bombardments in Progress Around Verdun Fortress.

The Bulgarian invasion of Greek Macedonia has reached to Demir-Hissar, and from that town forces of Bulgars are said to be making their way southward toward the Aegean seaport of Kavalla, northeast of Saloniki.

Unofficial estimates place the number of the invaders at 25,000. Along the Struma River the Greeks have evacuated the forts of Rupel, Dragotin, Spatovo and Kanevo to the Bulgars without offering resistance.

Coincidental with the Bulgarian invasion comes a report about the rejuvenated Serbian army—the ancient enemy of the Bulgars—has landed at Saloniki to re-enforce the British and French troops already there. This force has been variously estimated at from 80,000 to 100,000 officers and men. It was reorganized on the island of Corfu.

## ARTILLERY BOMBARDMENTS IN PROGRESS AT VERDUN

Only artillery bombardments have been in progress on the French front, around Verdun. No infantry attacks have been made. Around Le Mort Homme, northwest of Verdun, and in the section west of Thiaumont, the bombardments have been violent. In the Argonne forest, the French have captured craters caused by the explosion of German mines, and in Alsace have put down an attempt of the Germans to advance. In the fighting Saturday night the Germans in the Champagne region at several points penetrated the French line, and took 100 prisoners.

Petrograd reports an attempt of the Germans in the Lake Drislitz region to start an offensive. The movement was stopped by concentrated artillery and rifle fire.

The Austrians are still on the offensive against the Italians in the region southeast of Trent, but Rome reports that wherever infantry attacks were started the Austrians met with repulse. On the Isonzo front at San Michele the Italians in mining operations destroyed Austrian trenches, and took the defenders of them under their rifle fire at daybreak.

Turkish contingents which tried to advance against the Russians on the Caucasus front, in the region of Rivan-douza-Dergala, were repulsed by the Russians, according to Petrograd.

## SERBIAN ARMY SAFELY LANDED AT SALONIKI

PARIS, May 28.—After crossing the Aegean Sea without loss, the Serbian army, in full strength, now has been landed at Saloniki, according to a dispatch received here to-day by wireless telegraph.

Serbia's new army has been variously estimated to number between 80,000 and 100,000 officers and men. It was reorganized on the island of Corfu, approximately 700 miles distant from Saloniki.

The Serbian army totaled about 300,000 men at the outbreak of the war, but this force was greatly depleted by typhus and by the engagements to check the Austro-German and Bulgarian invasion of Serbia and Montenegro. The remnant of the original armies saved itself by retreating through the Albanian mountains to the eastern shore of the Adriatic.

On reaching the coast, the Serbians were transported to Corfu, where they were supplied with new rifles and clothing and efficiently equipped for further service on the Balkan battle field.

## BULGARIAN FORCES OCCUPY GREEK FORTS

LONDON, May 28.—At the French headquarters in the Balkans it was announced to-day that Bulgarians had occupied the Greek forts of Rupel, Dragotin and Spatovo, and were advancing from Demir-Hissar, toward Kavalla. This information was received here to-day in a dispatch from Athens to the Exchange Telegraph Company.

The Greek forts Rupel and Dragotin are, respectively, six and nine miles north of the town of Demir-Hissar, while Spatovo lies four miles east of that town. Kavalla, on which the Bulgarians are said to be marching, is a seaport on the Aegean Sea, fifty-five miles in an air line southeast of Demir-Hissar.

## BULGARIA REPORTS OCCUPATION OF TERRITORY

AMSTERDAM (via London), May 28.—The following official communication, issued at Sofia on Saturday, was received here to-day:

"To-day detachments of our troops operating in the Struma Valley, occupied the southern exit of Rupel Pass, together with the heights east and west of the River Struma."

## EDGES OF THREE CRATERS OCCUPIED BY FRENCH

PARIS, May 28.—Afternoon office in the Argonne at hill 285 and Hill Chevauchee, we occupied the south